

Maine Revised Statutes
Title 29-A: MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC
Chapter 19: OPERATION

§2057-A. PREEMPTIVE TRAFFIC LIGHT DEVICES PROHIBITED

1. Definitions. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Lighted traffic control device" means a traffic control device conforming to the requirements of section 2057, subsection 1. [2003, c. 633, §6 (NEW) .]

B. "Preemptive traffic light device" means a device, including a signal prioritization device or a signal preemption device, capable of altering or interrupting the normal cycle of a lighted traffic control device or equipment associated with the functionality of a lighted traffic control device. [2013, c. 61, §1 (AMD) .]

C. "Signal preemption device" means a device that, when activated and when a vehicle equipped with such a device approaches an intersection controlled by a lighted traffic control device, causes:

- (1) The signal, in the direction of travel of the vehicle, to remain green if the signal is already displaying a green light or to change from red to green if the signal is displaying a red light;
- (2) The signal, in other directions of travel, to remain red or change to red, as applicable, to prevent other vehicles from entering the intersection; and
- (3) The applicable functions described in subparagraphs (1) and (2) to continue until the vehicle equipped with the device is clear of the intersection. [2013, c. 61, §1 (NEW) .]

D. "Signal prioritization device" means a device that, when activated and when a vehicle equipped with such a device approaches an intersection controlled by a lighted traffic control device, causes:

- (1) The signal, in the direction of travel of the vehicle, to display a green light sooner than the green light would otherwise be displayed;
- (2) The signal, in the direction of travel of the vehicle, to display a green light longer than the green light would otherwise be displayed; and
- (3) The applicable functions described in subparagraphs (1) and (2) to continue until the vehicle equipped with the device is clear of the intersection. [2013, c. 61, §1 (NEW) .]

[2013, c. 61, §1 (AMD) .]

2. Violation. A person commits a Class E crime if that person possesses a preemptive traffic light device or operates or allows the operation of a motor vehicle, vehicle, motorized wheelchair, electric personal mobility device, scooter or bicycle equipped with a preemptive traffic light device.

[2003, c. 633, §6 (NEW) .]

3. Exemptions. This section does not apply to:

A. An authorized emergency vehicle equipped with a signal prioritization device or signal preemption device or both maintained by a municipality, county or state agency or an ambulance or emergency medical services vehicle as defined in section 2054, subsection 1; [2013, c. 61, §1 (AMD) .]

B. Transit route buses equipped with signal prioritization devices engaged in the transportation of passengers and maintained by or contracted to a municipal, county or state agency; [2013, c. 61, §1 (AMD) .]

C. A vehicle equipped with a signal prioritization device used by the Department of Transportation for the purpose of installing, maintaining or testing a lighted traffic control device; or [2013, c. 61, §1 (AMD) .]

D. A vehicle equipped with a signal prioritization device owned or contracted by a municipality engaged in snow removal or sanding operations on a public way and authorized by the municipal officers or a vehicle equipped with a signal prioritization device owned or contracted by a county or state agency engaged in snow removal or sanding operations on a public way. [2013, c. 61, §1 (NEW) .]

A vehicle under paragraph B, C or D may not operate a signal prioritization device in a manner that impedes or interferes with the use of a signal prioritization device by a vehicle under paragraph A. A vehicle under paragraph C may not operate a signal prioritization device in a manner that impedes or interferes with the use of a signal prioritization device by a vehicle under paragraphs B and D.

[2013, c. 61, §1 (AMD) .]

SECTION HISTORY

2003, c. 633, §6 (NEW). 2013, c. 61, §1 (AMD).

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